

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

GIVE UP
YET?

MARVEL

8

LGY#972

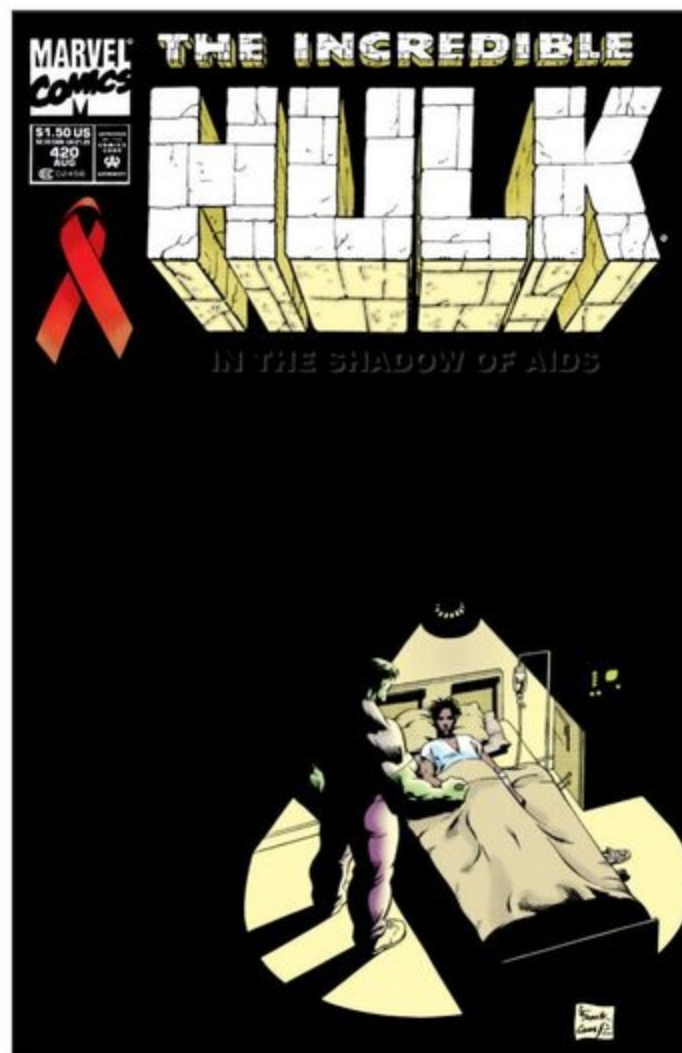
**KELLY
ROMITA JR.
HANNA
MENYZ**

RATED T

*JR
JR
Hanna
MENYZ*

“The only meaningful power is the power we have to help each other. And no power is greater than love, Rick. It’s very cornball. It’s also true.”

— Peter David in *Incredible Hulk* #467



PETER DAVID

1956-2025



“Peter’s Hulk was a green beacon at the point when I was breaking into comics. It seemed to be the one book at Marvel without an ‘X’ on it that really got fans excited. When I came aboard, I couldn’t believe how welcoming and generous Peter was to a young artist with no real track record, and the humanity in his characters became a template for the kind of books I would always want to make.

“Even today, thirty years later, the majority of fans I meet open with, ‘I loved that Peter David run on Hulk.’ Special books. Special writer.”

— Gary Frank

“Peter was always thinking around corners. Whenever he got a new assignment, his approach would be, ‘Okay, what does everyone expect from this series? Great, let’s do something else.’ And he’d show you a different angle, a different approach, that would suddenly illuminate the characters in a whole new way. He wasn’t an ‘Everything you know is wrong’ guy, but he was definitely an ‘Okay, what else?’ guy. And it worked—for him, for the books, for his legion of readers. He’d give you something no one else could.”

— Kurt Busiek

Marvel is saddened by the passing of Peter David, an incredible writer whose talents affected every part of the comics world and beyond.

David’s twelve-year run on *Incredible Hulk* was remarkable not only for its length, but also for the depth of ideas, innovations and clever writing. His influence on the character has extended through the years and from page to screen.

He created Spider-Man 2099, one of the first multiversal Spider-Men, and wrote three smart, charming and character-focused *X-Factor* runs. He brought his talents to the rest of the comics industry, including DC’s *Young Justice*, *Aquaman* and *Supergirl*. He has

written many shelves’ full of novels, from his own *Sir Apropos of Nothing* to many groundbreaking Star Trek novels. His column for the *Comics Buyer’s Guide*, “But I Digress,” gave insights into the comic book industry for more than a decade.

On television, he was the co-creator of *Space Cases* and wrote episodes of *Babylon 5*. He also wrote the films *Oblivion* (1994) and two entries in the *Trancers* series. He has won numerous awards, including an Eisner, an Inkpot, a *Wizard* Fan Award and a GLAAD Media Award.

He is survived by his wife Kathleen and his children Shana, Gwen, Ariel and Caroline.



PETER PARKER HAS THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED, STRENGTH, AND AGILITY OF A SPIDER, ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES, AND THE UNIQUE PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER CALLED "SPIDER-SENSE"! AFTER THE TRAGIC DEATH OF HIS UNCLE BEN, PETER PARKER UNDERSTOOD THAT WITH GREAT POWER THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. HE BECAME THE CRIMEFIGHTING SUPER HERO CALLED...

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

PREVIOUSLY



PETER PARKER

PETER PARKER's life was finally going well. He squashed Hobgoblin's latest scheme with the help of his long-lost childhood friend BRIAN NEHRING and did so without losing his new job at RAND ENTERPRISES--also thanks to Brian. He solidified NORMAN OSBORN, once his greatest enemy, as his staunchest ally. He fixed things with AUNT MAY and more-than-friend SHAY MARKEN. He even found time in his busy Spider-Manning schedule for BLACK CAT! And then... HELLGATE arrived. A being of unknown origin, demanding to test Spider-Man's strength for unknown reasons...and willing to kill anyone who stands in their way!



BLACK CAT



HELLGATE

Writer:

JOE KELLY

Pencilers:

JOHN ROMITA JR.
WITH **TODD NAUCK**

Inkers:

SCOTT HANNA
WITH **TODD NAUCK**

Colorists:

MARCIO MENYZ
WITH **ERICK ARCINIEGA**

Letterer:

VC's **JOE**
CARAMAGNA

Cover Artists:

JOHN ROMITA JR.,
SCOTT HANNA &
MARCIO MENYZ

Designer:

JAY BOWEN

Assistant Editor:

KAITLYN LINDTVEDT

Associate Editor:

TOM GRONEMAN

Editor:

NICK LOWE

Editor in Chief:

C.B. CEBULSKI

SPIDER-MAN created by
STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO



MARY JANE WATSON



PAUL RABIN

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**CENTRAL
PARK...
6:19 A.M.**

I WAS
HAVING A
PRETTY GOOD
NIGHT--NO--

--A GREAT
NIGHT IN AN
AWESOME
LIFE.

AND THEN
"HELLGATE" DROPS
IN WITH A MONOLOGUE
FROM THE HOBBIT AND
MURDEROUS INTENT.



WANTING
TO TEST MY
LIMITS.



"SHOW ME,"
HE SAID.



MY
PLEASURE.

*Thirty-three minutes since
Hellgate's appearance in New York.*





STOP
THIS AND JUST
TELL ME WHAT
YOU WANT--
HURKT!

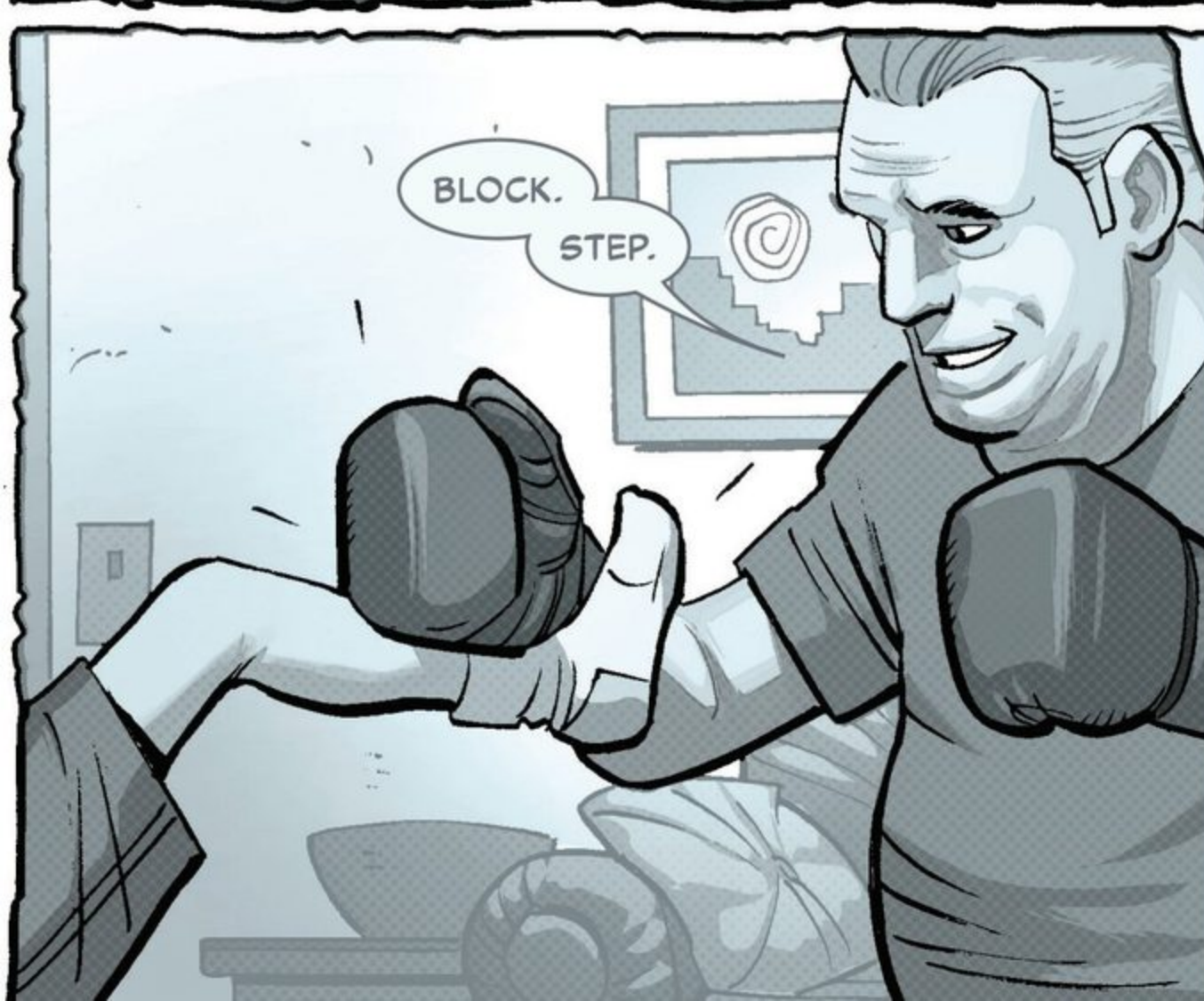
I HAVE THIS
WEIRD *ITCHING*
FEELING IN THE
BACK OF MY
BRAIN...



...THE FEELING OF
REMEMBERING
SOMETHING I DIDN'T
EVEN REALIZE I'D
FORGOTTEN.

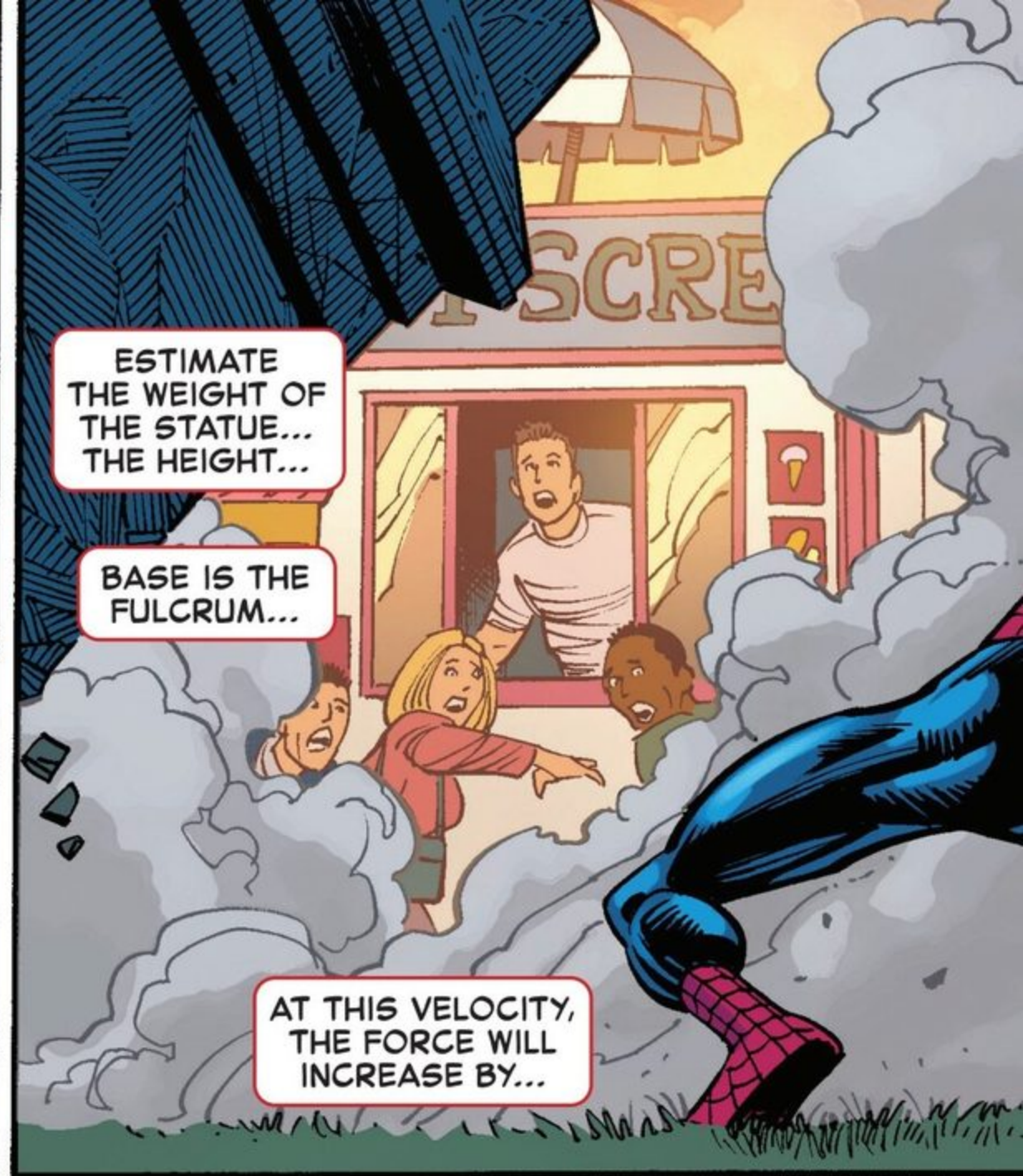


I THINK I'M
SCARED.











THREE.

SNAP.
CRACKLE.
POP.



SWALLOW
BACK
BLOOD.

LUNG?



GOD, PLEASE
DON'T LET
ANYONE GET
CAUGHT IN
THIS...

WHEN TO
FIGHT AND WHEN
TO RUN?

IF THE ONLY
THING THAT'S GONNA
GET BRUISED IS YOUR
EGO, JUST WALK
AWAY...

I THINK
EVERYONE
GOT OUT.



GOOD.

GOOD.



BECAUSE I
THINK I'M IN
TROUBLE.





STAY ON ME!

I'D BE LYING IF
I SAID I HIT HIM
WITH THE POINTY
END BY ACCIDENT.



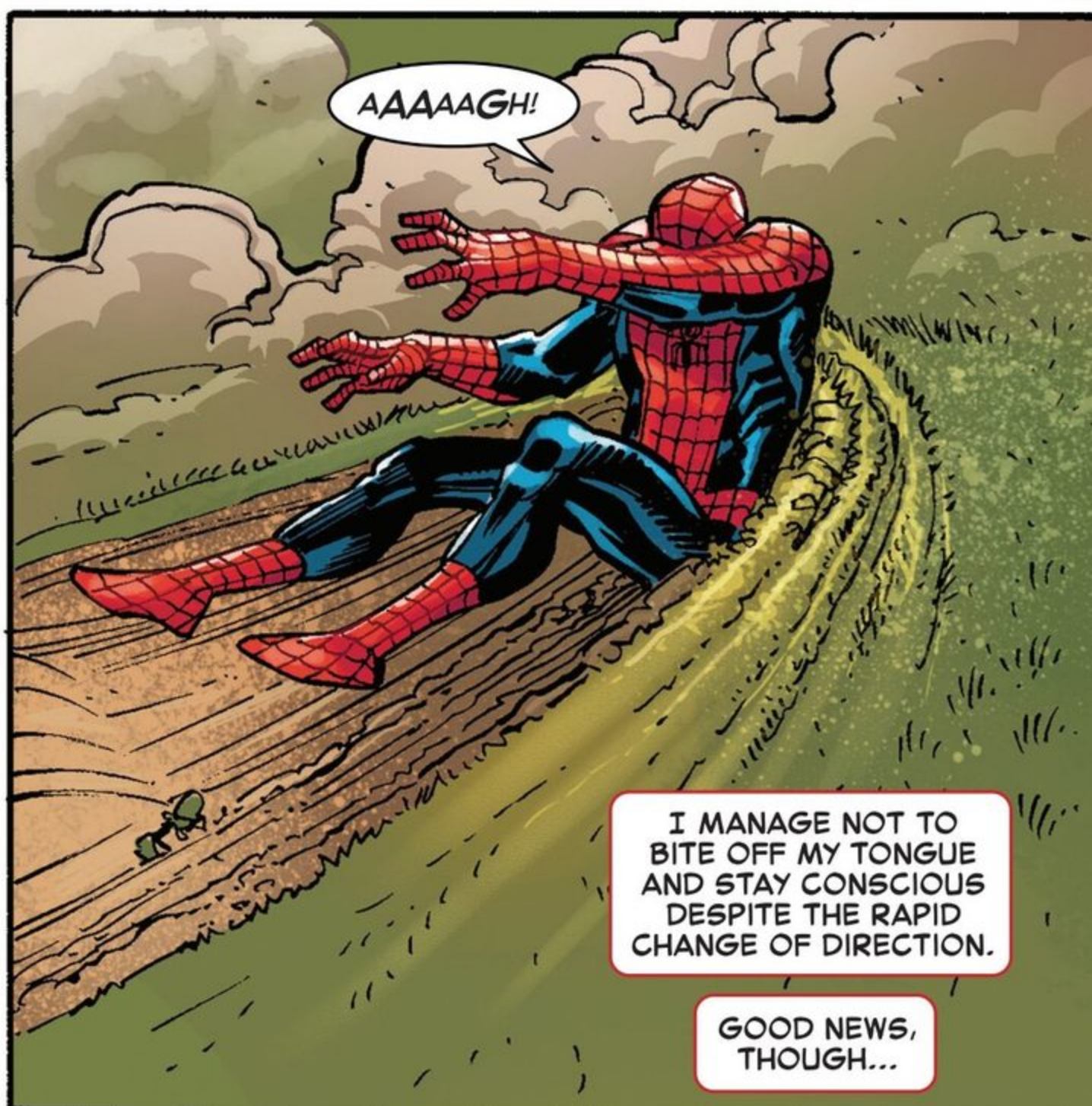
YOUR
WRETCHED
HANDS SULLY
MY BLADES.

BUT I HAD
A FEELING
IT WOULDN'T
MATTER.



HNNNGH!

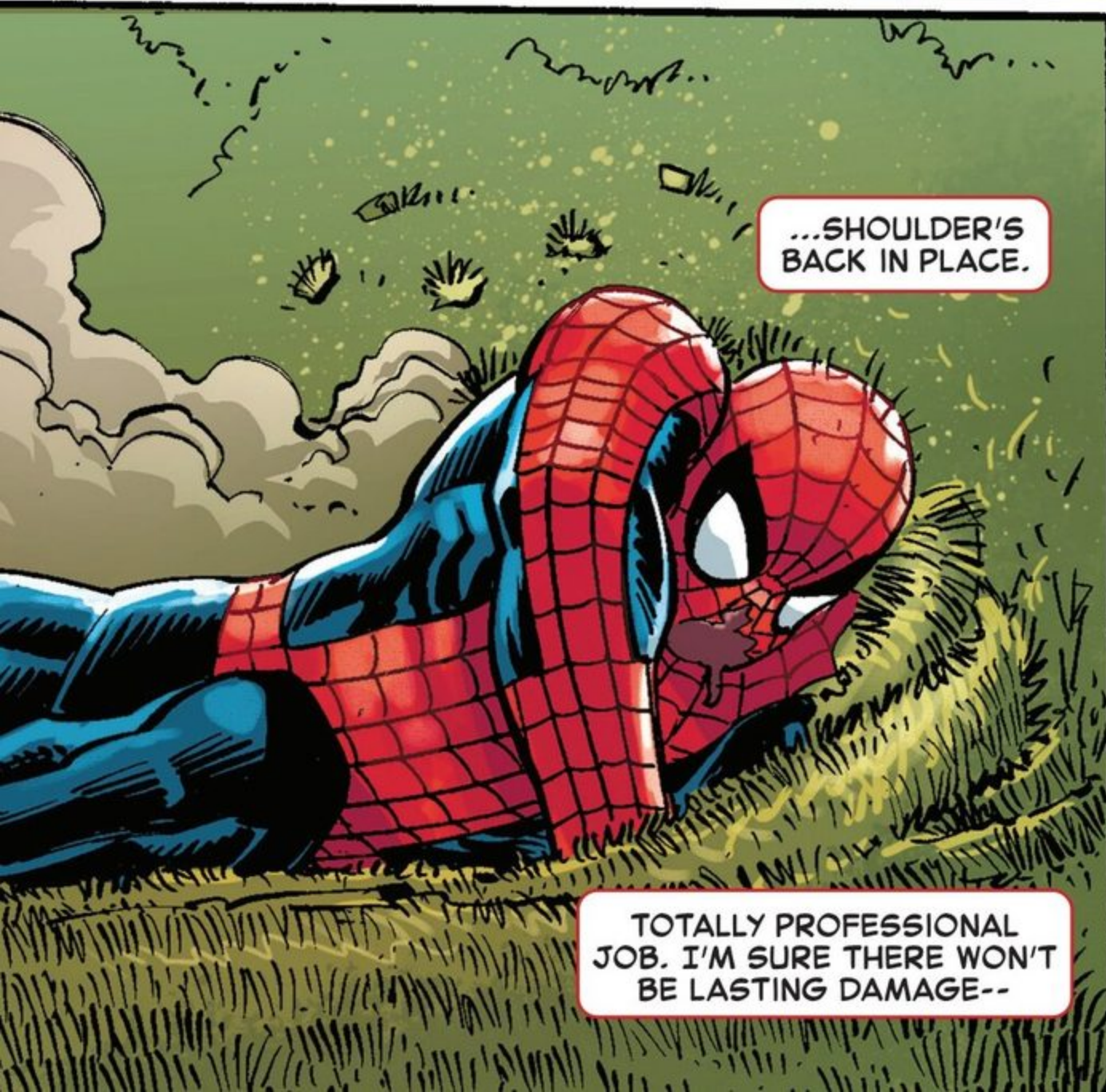
WHOKKT



AAAAAGH!

I MANAGE NOT TO
BITE OFF MY TONGUE
AND STAY CONSCIOUS
DESPITE THE RAPID
CHANGE OF DIRECTION.

GOOD NEWS,
THOUGH...



...SHOULDER'S
BACK IN PLACE.

TOTALLY PROFESSIONAL
JOB. I'M SURE THERE WON'T
BE LASTING DAMAGE--



DAMN IT...
WHERE IS
HE--?

HONK



I SCREAM.

BLOOD CHOKES
IT BACK, BUT I
DO IT ANYWAY.

IT'S
MEANINGLESS.



CHOOSE
YOUR
FOCUS.

TIME SLOWS,
AND I THINK OF
UNCLE BEN.

FOR BETTER OR WORSE,
HIS WORDS COME TO ME
AT TIMES LIKE THIS...



WHEN I'M
HURT...
SCARED.



IF YOU'RE
ALONE, YOU RUN.
FIGHT'S NOT
WORTH IT.

ONLY
THING THAT
GETS HURT IS
YOUR EGO.

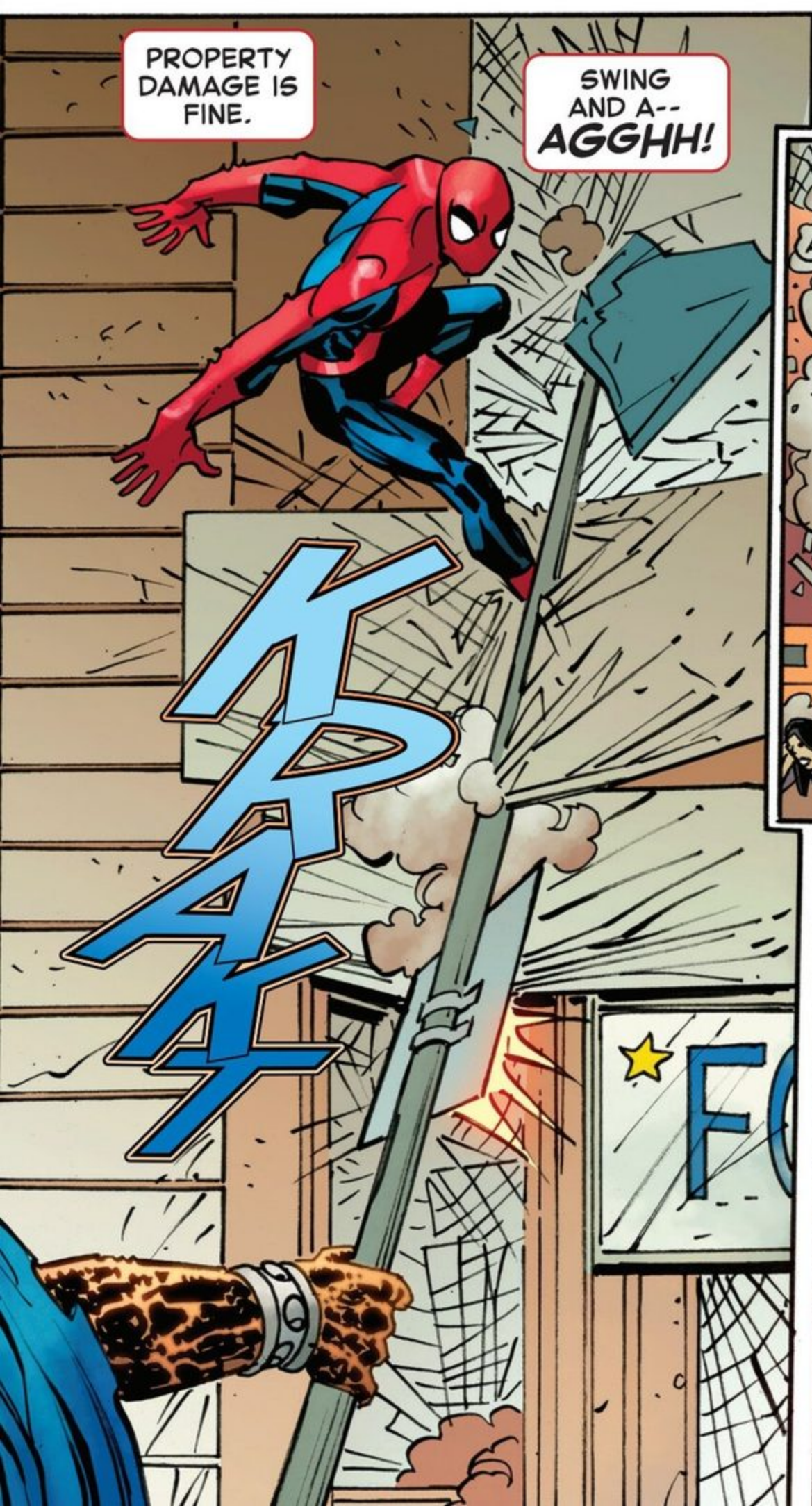


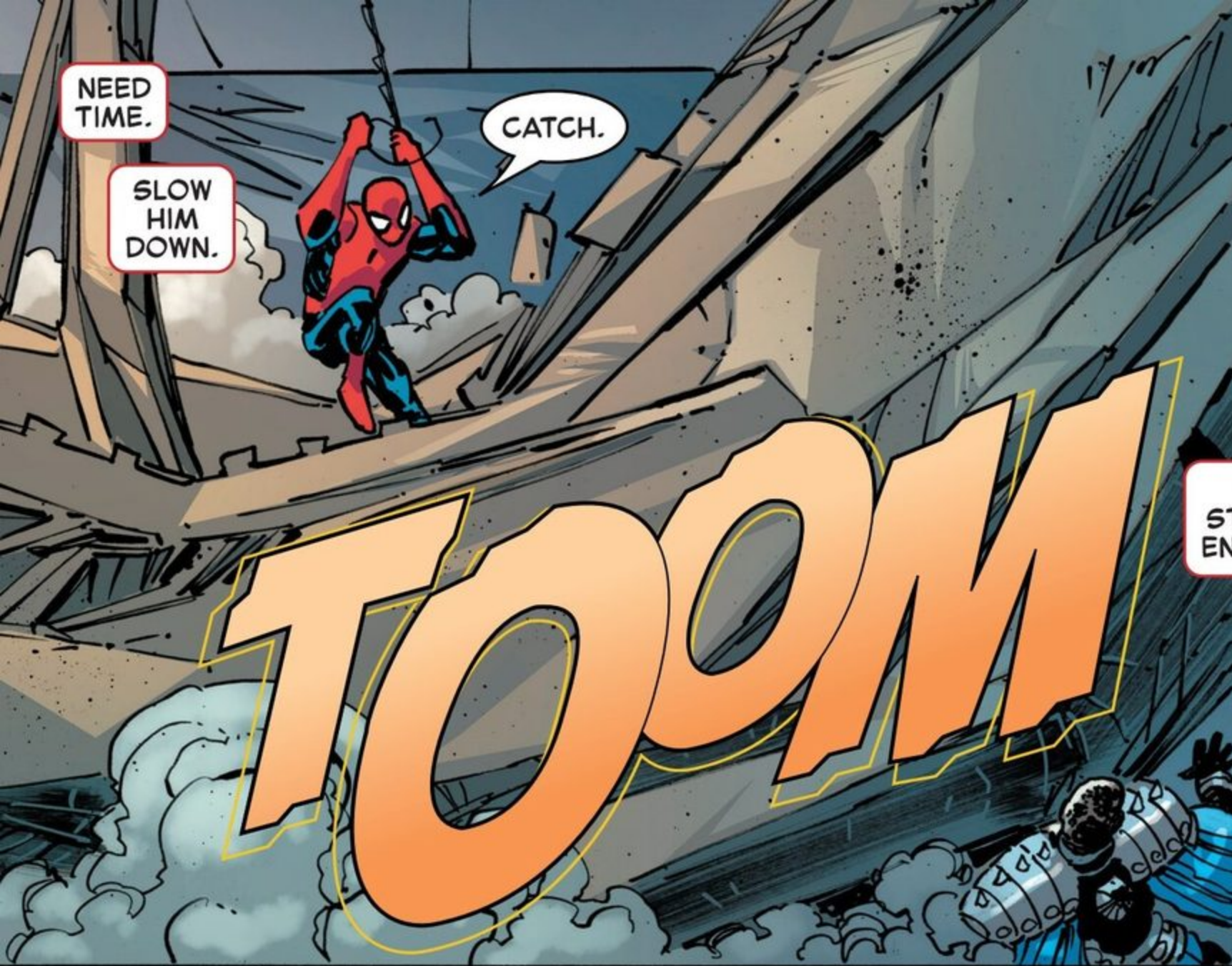
LEAVE THEM
ALONE, YOU
COWARD.

BUT IF YOU
HAVE TO PROTECT
PEOPLE YOU
LOVE...

SOMEONE
WEAKER THAN
YOU...?

NOT
REALLY A
CHOICE, IS IT,
PETE?





NEED TIME.

SLOW HIM DOWN.

CATCH.

NOT STRONG ENOUGH.

FALL, DAMN IT.

I NEED TIME.

I NEED ROOM--



HYEAGH!

CONCRETE FACIAL... COMPLIMENTS OF THE HOUSE. HEH.

OW.

STAY DOWN.

PLEASE.

I HAVE TO THINK.

SPLINT THE LEG.

BREATHE.

WE'RE ALONE NOW. TIGHT SPACE. NO CIVILIANS. I CAN--

D-DON'T WORRY, SPIDER-MAN...



I GOT YOU.

I'M
CAPTAIN KINTSUGI.
I'M HERE TO HELP.

YOU'RE KILLING ME RIGHT NOW...

NOT LITERALLY... THAT'S THE BIG GUY, BUT...



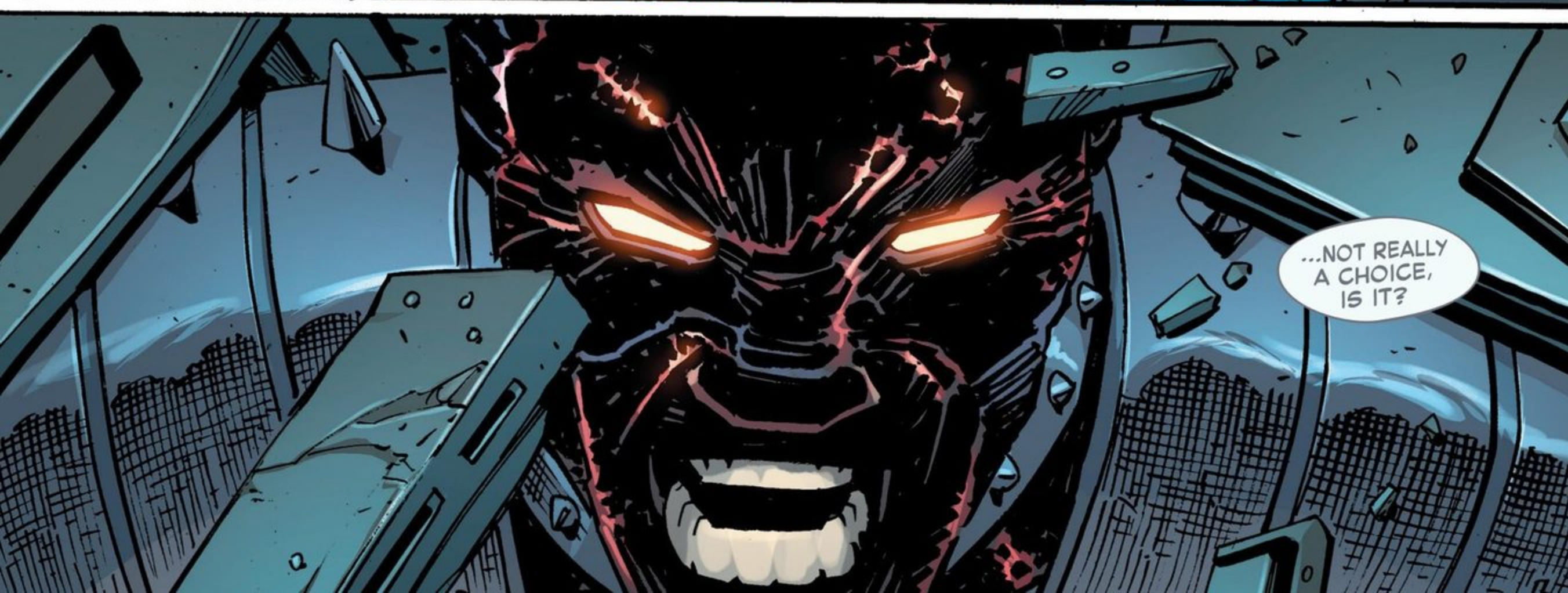
R...RUN...

I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO DO THAT, SIR.

PLEASE GET UP SO WE CAN GET THE #5% OUT OF HERE.



IF YOU HAVE TO PROTECT SOMEONE YOU LOVE... SOMEONE WEAKER THAN YOU...



...NOT REALLY A CHOICE, IS IT?



THANKS,
KID...hnngh.
GET OUT OF
HERE--

WAIT!
I WANT TO
HELP--

EVEN WHEN YOU
FEEL YOUR BONES
SCRAPING AGAINST
ONE ANOTHER...



BLOOD AND
BILE **MIXING** IN
YOUR MOUTH...

LET
ME HANDLE
THE LIGHT
WORK.



PROTECT
THOSE WEAKER
THAN YOU.

EVEN IF
ONLY FOR A
SECOND.

FOR THAT
SECOND,
YOU WIN.



ONLY A SECOND.
EVERYTHING
GOES BLACK...

URK.

KRRRRNNCH

RUN, KID. THIS
ISN'T YOUR FIGHT.
FOR THE LOVE
OF GOD, RUN.

6:29 A.M.

Mary Jane Watson looks out the window of her modest apartment as she does every morning...



...but today, the dawn carries a weight to it.

Her life has changed...drastically. And in turbulence, her thoughts turn to--

PETER.

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, TIGER--?

YOU WANT ME DEAD. YOU WANT ME DEAD, AND YOU HATE ME.



THERE'S NO OTHER REASON YOU'D FORCE ME TO EAT THIS CRAP!

IT'S LITERALLY THE OPPOSITE--

WHY AM I EVEN TALKING TO YOU?







YOU GONE...
CAPTAIN...?

SORRY...
#koff+ "CAPTAIN
KINTSUGI" IS A
MOUTHFUL...

WE'LL
WORK ON
IT--



DOOM
DOOM
DOOM



WE #koff+
GOT OFF ON
THE WRONG
FOOT...

HOLD THIS
#koff+ BUILDING
REAL QUICK FOR ME...
SO I...nnggh...SO
I CAN KICK YOUR
ASS...?



YOU
WERE TO
TEACH ME.

EVERYTHING
RELIES ON YOUR...
"STRENGTH."



WH-WHAT...?

PERHAPS
THE FARSIGHT
OF NIKODIMU IS...
CLOUDED.

WHATEVER
YOU DO...
LEAVE THEM
ALONE...

STOP HURTING PEOPLE
AND I'LL TEACH YOU
ANYTHING YOU WANT...
PLEASE...

YOU EMBODY WEAKNESS. YOU CALLED ME...
"COWARD."

YOUR DEATH
WILL PROVE YOU
WRETCHED...WITH
NOTHING TO
TEACH ME--

NO,
NIKODIMU. THIS
IS NO "PRINCE
OF STEELSILK."
THIS IS--

IT HAS BEEN
FORETOLD.
HE IS YOUR GUIDE
TO GREATER
HEIGHTS.

WHEN
HE DIES,
YOU WILL
SEE--

VOICE...
WHO...?

STAY
YOUR HAND,
KEEPER OF THE
HELLGATE.

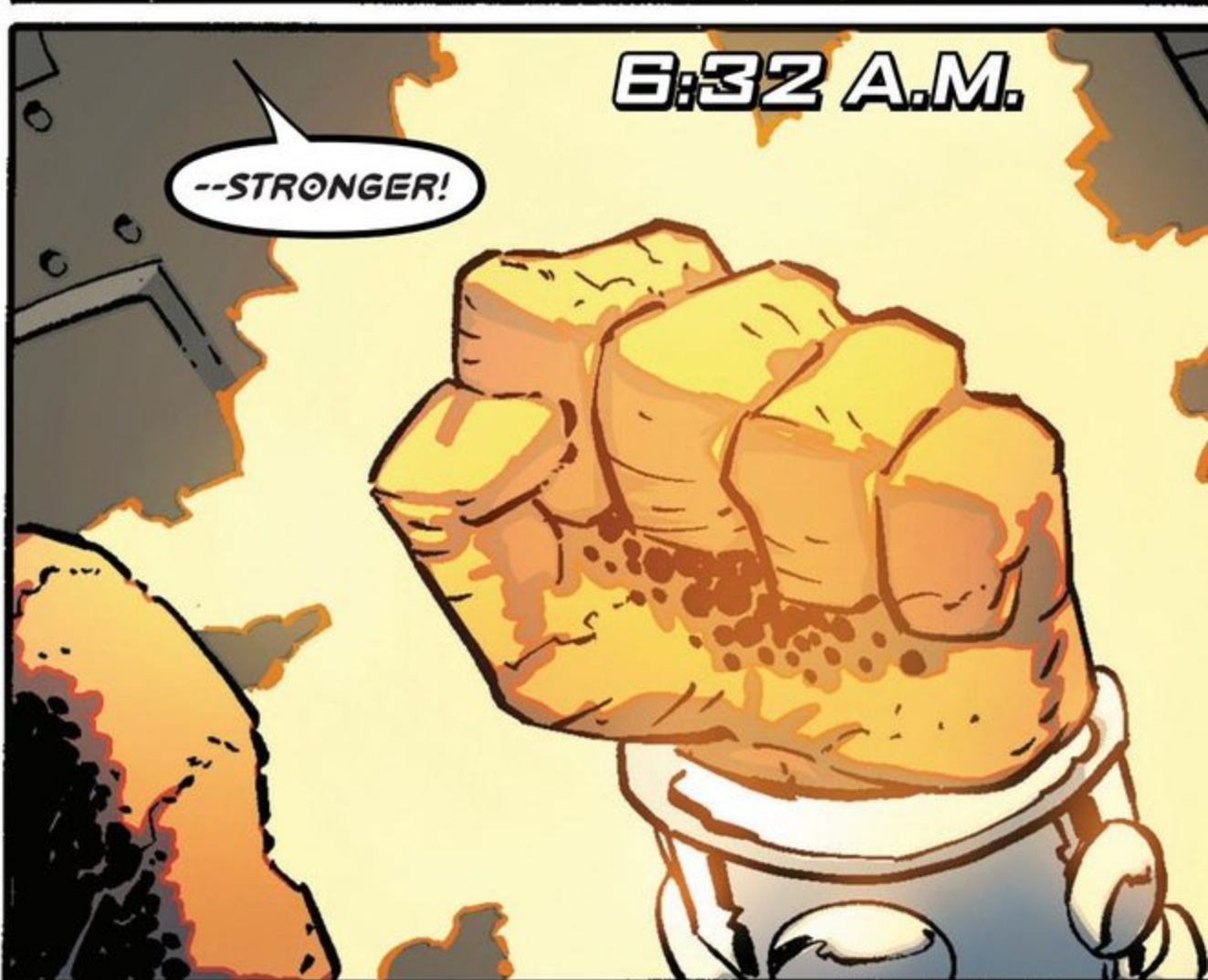
HE IS
THE ONE
FORETOLD!



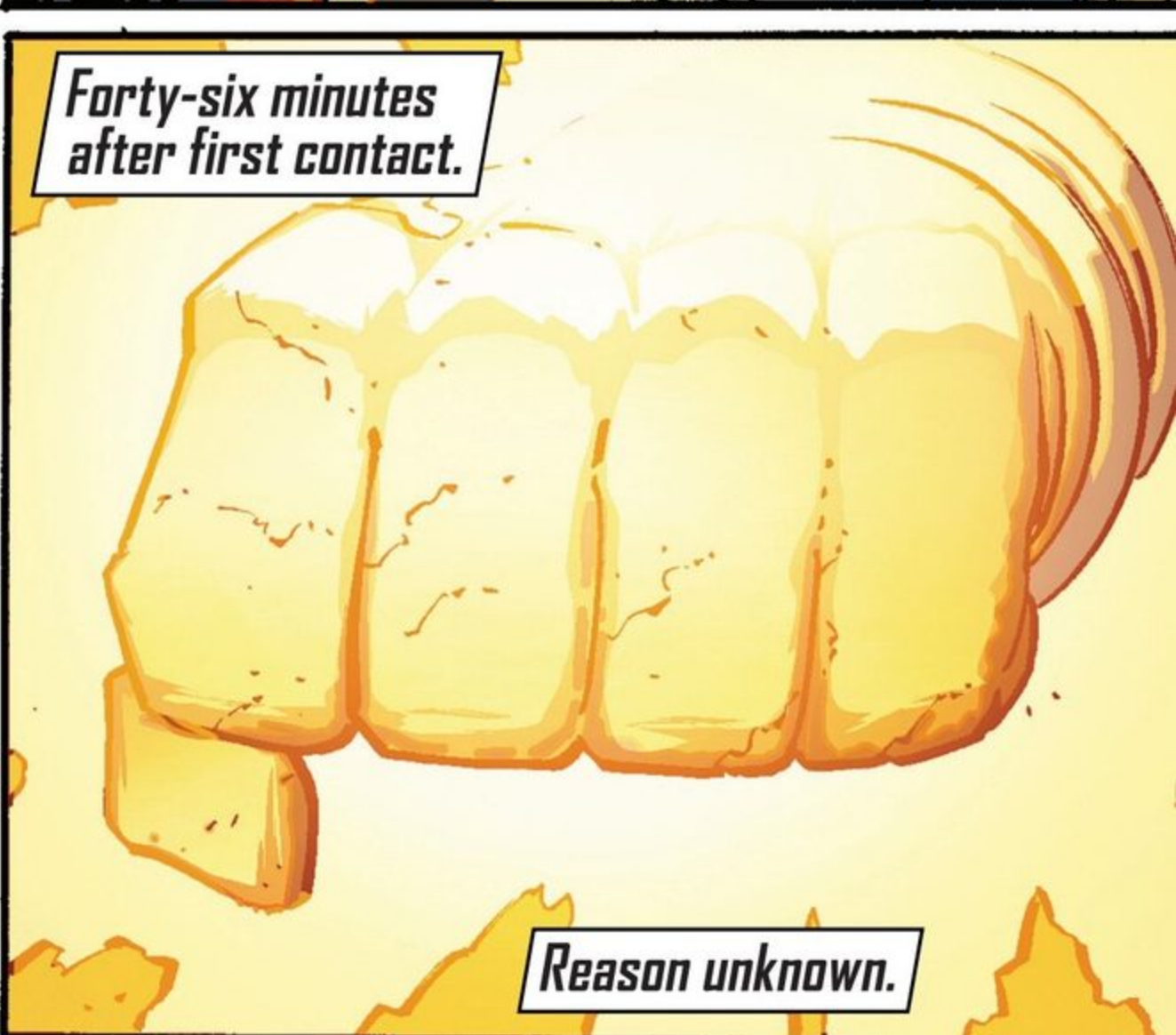
UH-OH...
#Koff- SOMEONE'S
IN TROUBLE...WITH
MOMMY...
WH-WHAT
NOW...?



6:32 A.M.

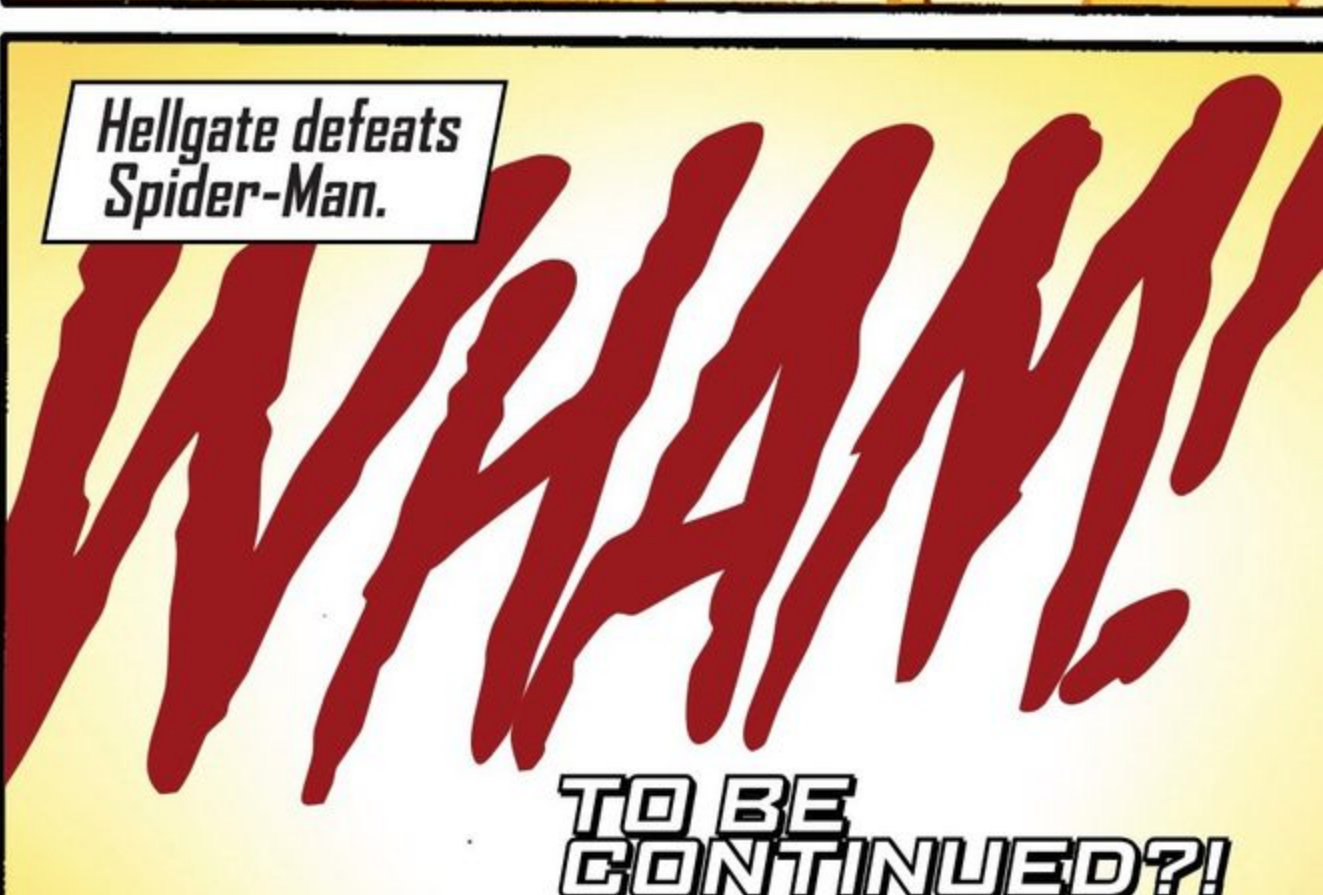


Forty-six minutes
after first contact.



Reason unknown.

Hellgate defeats
Spider-Man.



TO BE
CONTINUED?!

THE SPIDER'S WEB



ASSISTANT EDITOR: KAITLYN LINDTVEDT
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: TOM GRONEMAN
EDITOR: NICK LOWE

Uh...what just HAPPENED there, Web-Heads?

Spider-Editor Nick Lowe here as always. Did Spidey just BITE it? Did Hellgate just do what no Spider-Villain before him has ever done? Sure LOOKS that way. The last few issues have been BRUTAL, but I thought Spidey would still pull through like always. But now? What are we even going to do next issue? While we make a new plan, you all can take over the letters page.

Dear Team ASM,

I have been reading ASM monthly since the beginning of Nick Spencer's run, and the start to this new volume has been some of the most fun I've had reading this title. Joe Kelly and Pepe Larraz are creating some truly kinetic storytelling, and the flashbacks that give us more insight into Peter's past have been great and make this run unique from previous ones. I have been loving this series so much, and I can't wait to see it continue!

Thanks for the great stories,

Ethan Brown
Cincinnati, Ohio

Glad you've been reading and loving it. Sorry to break it to you, Ethan, but we may have to stop publishing it now! Hellgate, what the heck?! What am I going to tell C.B.? Buckley? MICKEY?! I'm in some TROUBLE!

Hey, Spider-Office,

First things first, I absolutely love Hobgoblin, probably in my top five of favorite Spider-Man villains, and any comic where I get to see Spider-Man and him fight is always fun to

read! Second of all, I love the wings that Hobgoblin has--where did they come from? It honestly feels like a natural part of Hobgoblin and that it should have been there all along, like the glider is for Green Goblin. As much fun as Spider-Man's fights with Hobgoblin and Itsy Bitsy were in this issue, I think the best part of reading ASM #4 was the scene with young Peter and Aunt May in the bathroom during that flashback. The tenderness, love, and compassion for Peter just poured off the page and tugged at my heartstrings. This comic was a total home run, A+ all the way. Keep up the Amazing, Spectacular, and Sensational work, Web-Heads!

Keep Swinging,

Matt Roberts
Fort Carson, CO

Thanks for writing in, and Great to hear from you, Matt! Ol' Hobby is always such a treat. The wings and sword were Joe's idea that Pepe took and ran with big time. I'm sure there was some inspiration from Goblin Knight (who I dig), but Joe and Pepe are always trying to amp up everything they do. Couldn't agree more about the Peter/May scene in issue #4. That was one of my favorite scenes in any Spidey comic ever. Maybe that's what we'll do moving forward. All adolescent Peter Parker/May/Ben stories!

Hello, Spider's Web!

I've been reading comics my whole life...ever since I discovered a copy of AMAZING SPIDERMAN #298. So Spidey was the start of my lifelong love for comics! It's not always that a story hits you on a personal level--most of the time, it's a lot

of boom! bam! thwip! and swish! But sometimes, just sometimes, a story will "get to me" and hit me in the feels, and that was the case with AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #4.

Something about losing the loved ones in our life...pushing people we shouldn't out of our lives and then realizing just how much we need them and love them. Something about these themes pushed all the right buttons, and I'm sure I wasn't alone. I started thinking, "oh man, not another issue of Spidey still drugged out"--yet slowly but surely, the story started hitting me hard, made a few tears flow, and got me all emotional. Thanks to Joe Kelly and Pepe Larraz for making a story that made me feel and think about my life choices. Let's appreciate those we love before we don't have them in our lives anymore.

Grateful for a good story,

Francisco Gonzalez
Hackensack, NJ

Really glad the issue worked so well for you, Francisco. You're not alone in the tear-shedding department. Joe took great care pacing out all the flashbacks and drug stuff to lead to that scene, and Pepe just knocked it out of the park. One thing we're playing with a lot in this volume is the strange way memories can work. Just the other day, my friend Katie Moore reminded me of one of my first onstage ad-lib moments from when I was in the eighth grade that I had totally forgotten about, and it put me right back on that stage at the Beck Center in Lakewood, Ohio, in *Cinderella*. The human brain is a wild thing! It has to be strange

for Peter Parker that his brain is most likely dead!

Hiii, guys!

I just want to say how excited I am to have Joe Kelly writing for Spidey! Peter Parker/Spider-Man has been my favorite hero since I was a small child. Instead of Ken dolls, it was a Spider-Man action figure I owned having tea parties with my Barbies! Even now in my thirties, I have a deep affection for Spider-Man, and my collection of comics and merch for him grows larger every day.

That being said, it's always a little scary when starting a new Spider-Man run because you never know if someone can truly capture the feel of Peter Parker and not just make his life miserable. When I found out Joe was going to be involved, all my fears flew out the window. I became a fan of Joe's work after getting my hands on a DEADPOOL #1 when I was in college in 2012.

I'm the assistant manager at a comic book shop, and as soon as I saw that Joe was writing for this new ASM run, I suggested that everyone add it to their pull list! I'm ready to see the journey that Joe, Nick, Kaitlyn, and Tom take Spidey on. I've already read the first three issues and am hyped for more! Thank you guys for taking good care of my favorite web-slinger!

With gratitude and excitement,

Quinnita Faith

What a lovely letter to read! Thanks for writing in, Quinnita! What store do you work at? Write back in and we'll try to give it some love! Really glad you're

liking this volume and truly appreciate the saleswomanship! Hope no one cancels after we killed Spidey!

Hello, Spidey-Office!

I just finished reading issue #5 of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN volume whatever we're at by now and have been absolutely amazed by this first arc. This is the first time I've read a volume of Spider-Man as it releases starting with the first issue, and so far, it seems well worth it. I thought the previous work Joe Kelly did on the character that I had read was pretty solid, but nothing could have prepared me for the sob-fest that was Aunt May comforting an alcohol-poisoned Peter in the bathroom. As somebody who grew up with a "fill-in" parent, I can confidently say that Joe Kelly portrayed the fear of losing a parent all over again perfectly.

Finding new ground to break while sticking within the confines of a near-thousand-issue, sixty-plus-year ongoing story where characters age INCREDIBLY slow is incredible, and I can't wait to see where this goes.

I've also become obsessed with Pepe Larraz's artwork during this first arc. I don't think any Spider-Man artist has been able to make stationary images feel so full of motion. I would love to see him draw the FANTASTIC FOUR in the future. The way he translates motion to a page would be so cool to apply to Reed's stretchy limbs and Johnny flying around.

With ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN still going strong, this feels like an amazing (if not a little expensive)

time to catch up with modern Spider-Man comics.

With not-so-great power,

Ben Dadowski
Pittsburgh, PA

Thanks for the great note, Ben. It's especially meaningful to hear your endorsement of Joe and Pepe's handling of Peter's childhood situation. It's our goal to make you shed A LOT more tears as we go further and further into this run!

Keep thwippin'! Heck, if you're able to truly thwip, let us know as we might need a Spider-Replacement!

Nick Lowe
Spider-Editor
New York, NY



Hello, fellow Spider-Men!

I wanted to join in with my first Spider-Man issue: It was the SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN #17, 1997. I was 12 years old, and I stole it from my brother!

Stay cool,
Reese

Email us at SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM and mark your messages "Okay to Print" for a chance to see them answered in future issues!

THE LOW-DOWN

month, Martin is launching **PREDATOR: BLACK, WHITE & BLOOD!** It's an anthology in the BW&B series, and it's awesome. There's also a big **BRING ON THE BAD GUYS** story going on, and we Spiders are doing the chilling **GREEN GOBLIN** and powerful **ABOMINATION** one-shots that are a part of it! Don't miss those or any of the other steamy Spider-Books coming out!

Keep Thwippin', **Nick Lowe** Spider-Editor

THIS MONTH'S HOST



Carlos Pacheco because, even aside

Don't worry about school—keep drawing and not paying attention in class. You'll make it one day as a comic book artist! (Wait... I think this message got through to me in the past, because that's exactly what I did anyway xD.)

THUMP-*LIST*

- ❑ ALL-NEW VENOM #8
- ❑ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #7
- ❑ BRING ON THE BAD GUYS: GREEN GOBLIN #1
- ❑ SPIDER-GWEN: THE GHOST-SPIDER #15
- ❑ MARVEL KNIGHTS: THE WORLD TO COME #2
- ❑ MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #35



- ☐ **BRING ON THE BAD GUYS:
ABOMINATION #1**
- ☐ **DEATH OF THE
SILVER SURFER #2**
- ☐ **EDDIE BROCK: CARNAGE #6**
- ☐ **SPIDER-GIRL #2**
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #8**
- ☐ **GWENPOOL #3**
- ☐ **JEFF THE LAND SHARK #2**
- ☐ **SPIDER-VERSE VS.
VENOMVERSE #3**



**MARVEL KNIGHTS:
THE WORLD TO COME #2**
page 18, panel 12
art by JOE QUESADA



EDGE OF THE VARIANT-VERSE >>>>>>

SPIDER-GIRL #2
Variant Cover by
NOGI SAN



GAMMA CORNER

IS HE SPIDER, OR IS HE SYMBIOTE...OR IS HE NEITHER?

It's in this moment that Hulk meets a young boy who will make him question everything he believes about himself. Is he man, or is he monster? Or is he both?



CHECK OUT:



This month on Marvel Unlimited, it's the surprise ending of our astonishing tale! Spider-Man's powers are growing at an incredible rate, and it takes him somewhere truly shocking!

EMERALD BENSADOUN, KAITLYN LINDTVEDT & KAEDEN McGAHEY - Assistant Editors
MARTIN BIRO & TOM GRONEMAN - Associate Editors **JORDAN D. WHITE** - Senior Editor
NICK LOWE - Executive Editor

NEXT:

#9



ON SALE IN JULY